

## ARTICLE XX

**Petitioner:** Sam Glasgow and other residents including members of the Small Business Development Committee

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### ARTICLE \_\_\_\_\_

To see if the Town will authorize and empower the Select Board to file a petition, in substantially the following form, with the General Court:

AN ACT AMENDING CHAPTER 268 OF THE ACTS OF 2018 TO REALLOCATE TWO (2) REMAINING LIQUOR LICENSES FROM THE WASHINGTON SQUARE TARGET COMMERCIAL AREA TO BROOKLINE VILLAGE TARGET COMMERCIAL AREA AND THE COOLIDGE CORNER TARGET COMMERCIAL AREA

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. (A) Section 1 Paragraph (b)(1) of Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2018 is hereby amended by striking out the word “Three” and inserting in place thereof the following word – “Four”.

(B) Section 1 Paragraph (b)(2) of Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2018 is hereby amended by striking out the word “Five” and inserting in place thereof the following word – “Six”.

(C) Section 1 Paragraph (b)(4) of Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2018 is hereby amended by striking out the word “Three” and inserting in place thereof the following word – “One”.

(D) Section 1 Paragraph (f) of Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2018 is hereby amended by striking out the number “2” and inserting in place thereof the following number – “4”.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

The General Court may make vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition. Or act on anything relative thereto.

**EXPLANATION:**

In the fall of 2017, Town Meeting authorized the Town of Brookline to petition the state for 35 additional liquor licenses. A year later, the Legislature granted the Town 12 special liquor licenses, which were allotted to four “Target Commercial Areas”: Brookline Village (3), Coolidge Corner (5), JFK Crossing (1), and Washington Square (3). These full-liquor licenses were granted with two important stipulations: the licenses expire on October 11, 2020 (i.e. two years after the authorizing legislation’s effective date) and cannot be utilized outside of the Target Commercial Area to which they were allocated.

As of February 2020, two of the three special liquor licenses originally allocated to Washington Square remain unused. A handful of Washington Square restaurants have expressed interest in obtaining one of these special liquor licenses, however, just ten months shy of the October 2020 deadline, no restaurants have officially begun the process of obtaining a special liquor license. To ensure that these remaining special liquor licenses do not go unused, the Small Business Development Committee proposes that the Town petition the Legislature for approval to redistribute any remaining special liquor licenses originally allocated to Washington Square to Coolidge Corner and Brookline Village. All of the special liquor licenses allocated to Brookline Village and Coolidge Corner, Brookline’s largest commercial areas, were claimed within a year. While there continues to be demand for liquor licenses in Brookline Village and Coolidge Corner, no full-liquor licenses are currently available through the Town’s standard quota of liquor licenses. The Economic Development Division is confident that any special liquor licenses redistributed to Coolidge Corner or Brookline Village would be claimed within a year.

This warrant article proposes that any Washington Square special liquor licenses that remain unclaimed by October 11, 2020, be reallocated to the Coolidge Corner and Brookline Village Target Commercial Areas (i.e. the commercial areas defined in the enacted 2018 legislation) and that the deadline for any reallocated special liquor licenses to be issued be extended two years to October 11, 2022.